UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/2000/132
22 March 2000

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 11 (a)

CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE QUESTIONS OF TORTURE AND DETENTION

Letter dated 10 March 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith,* the letter of 10 March 2000, addressed by Mr. Branko Brankovic, Ambassador, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the United Nations Office in Geneva, to Mr. Kapil Sibal, Chairman and Rapporteur of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Commission on Human Rights. I would like to ask you to have it issued as an official document of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 11 (a).

(Signed) Branko BRANKOVIC

Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* The annex is reproduced as received, in the language of submission only.

Geneva, 10 March 2000

Mr. Sibal,

I would like to inform you of the situation in the Serbian province of Kosovo and Metohija which is in connection with your direct mandate.

Eight months after the deployment of KFOR and UNMIK, chaos and lawlessness are prevailing in Kosovo and Metohija. Continuing are terror, killings and arrests of remaining Serbs and Montenegrins primarily, who are not among those 350.000 persons displaced from Kosovo and Metohija since 12 June 1999.

In the period from 12 June until 6 February 2000 a total of 4249 terrorists acts were perpetrated in Kosovo and Metohija, of which 4030 against Serbs and Montenegrins. As many as 834 persons went missing or were abducted, 889 were killed and 784 wounded. Over 50.000 homes were destroyed and over 1000 private dwellings and houses were broken into and forcibly taken occupancy of. Over 80 mediaeval monasteries and churches were demolished. Such situation is a daily occurrence. My Government has informed of it on several occasions the United Nations, in particular the Security Council and the Secretary-General, as well as the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and FR of Yugoslavia and others who were duty-bound to react and put an end to serious breaches of human rights and freedoms of the Serbian population primarily, and of the members of other ethnic groups in Kosovo and Metohija as well.

Contrary to provisions of the UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), parallel, quasi state authorities are established, comprised exclusively of Albanians as the only one of the numerous ethnic groups living in Kosovo and Metohija. Courts employ only Albanians - from the investigating judge to the president of the Court. Serbs are convicted and arrested without material evidence and written charges, while their being in custody is constantly prolonged, on the account of new "charges". People are arrested and kept in custody, as a rule, on the basis of Albanians informing against Serbs.

The systematic violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of Serbs, Montenegrins, Roma, Goranci, Turks and other non-Albanian population is unacceptable to the FR of Yugoslavia, especially in the light of its duty to ensure to its entire population the respect for those international norms it had accepted by ratifying the relevant conventions of the UN.

Mr. Kapil SIBAL
Chairman/Rapporteur
Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
UN Commission on Human Rights

Recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights entitled "The issue on Arbitrary Detention" and recalling the mandate of the Working Group for Arbitrary Detention to collect from governments information on cases of arbitrarily detained persons, I would like to appeal to you that the Working Group most urgently take into consideration cases of Serbs arbitrarily arrested by KFOR and UNMIK in Kosovo and Metohija. Namely, a great many Serbs are detained in prisons in Pristina, Prizren, Sojevo near Urosevac, Kosovska Mitrovica, Gnjilane, Lipljan and Klokot Banja.

Recalling Articles 9 respectively of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, I would like to reiterate that arbitrary deprivation of liberty is unacceptable. I consider it of utmost importance that the Working Group most urgently considers these issues with a view to taking necessary measures. For a better understanding of the facts in the field, please find enclosed a list with the so far known names of persons arbitrarily detained in Kosovo and Metohija.

Persons arbitrarily arrested by KFOR in Kosovo and Metohija

1. Micic Dejan - detained in prison in Prizren;
2. Djinovic Miodrag - detained in prison in Prizren;
3. Kolasinac Andjelko - detained in prison in Prizren;
4. Levic Stanislav - detained in prison in Prizren;
5. Simic Vekoslav - detained in prison in Prizren;
6. Momcilovic Miroljub - kept in custody in US base of the KFOR in Sojevo near Urosevac;
7. Momcilovic Boban - kept in custody in US base of the KFOR in Sojevo near Urosevac;
8. Momcilovic Jugoslav - kept in custody in US base of the KFOR in Sojevo near Urosevac;
9. Jovanovic Dragan - detained in prison in K. Mitrovica;
10. Simic Igor - arrested on 9. 8. 1999; detained for 17 days in prison without a court decision;
11. Aleksic Vlastimir - arrested on 14. 8. 1999; detained in prison in K. Mitrovica;
12. Aleksic Srdjan - arrested on 14. 8. 1999; detained in prison in K. Mitrovica;
13. Simic Zvezdan - arrested on the basis of incomplete and unclear testimony of his neighbour Vehbi Redzepi;
14. Ljuljzemi Ademi - kept in custody since 11. 7. 1999. His brother and father were arrested on 30. 8.
15. Matvjenko Dusan - arrested on 27. 8. 1999;
16. Vucetic Nenad - kept in custody since 10. 8.1999;
17. Martinovic Relja- kept in custody since 10. 8.1999;
18. Vucetic Vladan - 16 years old, mentally retarded;
19. Kragovic Miodrag
20. Memarovic Radoje - from Istok, arrested on 10. 8. 1999;
21. Veselinovic Zvonko - arrested on 10. 8. 1999;
22. Jovanovic Veljko - arrested on 17. 8.1999;
23. Markovic Bata - arrested on 18. 9. 1999 in K. Mitrovica;
24. Vukmirovic Vladan - arrested on 18. 9. 1999 in K. Mitrovica;
25. Matic Nenad
26. Markovic Slobodan - detained in prison in Gnjilane;
27. Maksimovic Vladica - driver of the Rector of the Pristina University, J. Zelenovic, arrested on 6. 9. 1999 ;
28. Djordjevic Dusan
29. Najkic Sinisa
30. Dimic Mirce - arrested mid-October in the village of Nogile near Vitina;
31. Rajcic Dejan - detained in prison in the village of Sojevo near Urosevac;

32. Jokic Milos - detained in prison in the village of Sojevo near Urosevac;

33. Dunjevic Predrag - detained in prison in the village of Sojevo near Urosevac;
34. Arsic Boban - detained in prison in the village of Sojevo near Urosevac;
35. Gligorovski Lazar - detained in prison in K. Mitrovica;
36. Lakusic Goran - arrested on 4. 8. 1999. in Lipljan;
37. Denic Slobodan - from the village of Bostane;
38. Dragan Pavic - from the village of Bostane;
39. Ivan Kostic - from the village of Bostane;
40. Nikolic Sasa - from the village of Rajanovce, detained in prison in US base in Sojevo near Urosevac;
41. Nikolic Bora - from the village of Rajanovce, detained in prison in US base in Sojevo near Urosevac;
42. Soskic Milan - arrested in Gnjilane;
43. Stojkovic Dejan- policeman of SUP Pristina, arrested on 12. 9. 1999 in K.Mitrovica;
44. Biocanini Ljubosav - detained in Klokot Banja;
45. Maksimovic Sasa - arrested on 24. 9. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
46. Petkovic Blagoje - arrested on 18. 6. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac, suspected of murder;
47. Stanojevic Sasa - arrested on 24. 6. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
48. Mihajlovic Jugoslav - arrested on 24. 6. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
49. Nikolic Dragan - arrested on 3. 8. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
50. Stojanovic Bozidar - arrested on 1. 9. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
51. Trajkovic Momcilo - arrested on 7. 9. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
52. Zivkovic Blagoje - arrested on 14. 10. 1999, he is in US base Sojevo, near Urosevac;
53. Filipovic Ljubisa - arrested on 5. 11. 1999, he is in US base in Sojevo, near Urosevac;
54. Bojicic Nebojsa - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 8. 8. 1999;
55. Djordjevic Milos - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 8. 8. 1999;
56. Maljkovic Ranko - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 13. 8. 1999;
57. Milosevic Srecko - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 22. 7. 1999;
58. Percijku Mirsad - from Vucitrn, arrested on 28. 8. 1999;
59. Radovic Dragisa - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 21. 9. 1999;
60. Sekulic Nenad - from Raska, arrested on 14. 8. 1999;
61. Slavic Slavko - from the village of Priluzje, arrested on 15. 9. 1999;
62. Stankovic Miroslav - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 31. 7. 1999;
63. Stojkovic Zoran - from K.Mitrovica, arrested on 8. 8. 1999;
64. Todorovic Pavle - from Pec, arrested on 23. 8. 1999;
65. Todorovic Slobodan - from Pec, arrested on 23. 8. 1999;
66. Grkovic Golub - from Orahovo, arrested on 29. 11. 1999;
67. Jankovic Slobodan - from Orahovo, arrested on 28. 11. 1999;
68. Bacevic Sasa - from K.Polje, arrested on 30. 8. 1999;
69. Bacevic Slobodan - from K.Polje, arrested on 1. 9. 1999;
70. Badulovic Nenad - from Lamela, arrested on 24. 6. 1999;
71. Dragovic Bozidar - from Pristina, arrested on 26. 6. 1999;
72. Dejanovic Zoran - from Lipljan, arrested on 27. 6. 1999;
73. Dekic Zoran - from Laplje Selo, arrested on 6. 8. 1999;
74. Dimic Dragan - from K.Polje, arrested on 29. 7. 1999;
75. Djordjevic Bato - from K.Polje, arrested on 30. 8. 1999;
76. Dimic Dragan - from Majke Jugovica, arrested on 1. 7. 1999;
77. Romic Dragan - from Lipljan, arrested on 30. 6. 1999;
78. Ristic Dragan - from the village of Suvi Do, arrested on 6. 6. 1999;
79. Dukic Nebojsa - from Pristina, arrested on 26. 6. 1999;
80. Filipovic Dragan - from K.Polje, arrested on 18. 8. 1999;

81. Filipovic Stanko - from Pristina, arrested on 26. 6. 1999;
82. Larusic Goran - from K.Polje, arrested on 7. 7. 1999;
83. Ilic Zarko - from Lipljan, arrested on 30. 6. 1999;

84. Denic Ivan - from the village of Vgljarevo, arrested on 14. 7. 1999;
85. Bratic Lazar - from Obilic, arrested on 9. 9. 1999;
86. Lazic Nenad - from K.Polje, arrested on 6. 8. 1999;
87. Lazic Radoica - from the village of Batusa, arrested on 24. 6. 1999;
88. Mihajlovic Aleksandar - from Pristina, arrested on 19. 7. 1999;
89. Stankovic Milibor - from the village of Crkvena Vodica, arrested on 28. 9. 1999;
90. Gurdic Milos - arrested on 13. 7. 1999;
91. Miric Veselin - from Lipljan, arrested on 27. 6. 1999;
92. Miric Zarko - from Lipljan, arrested on 27. 6. 1999;
93. Mladenovic Ljubisa - from the village of Devet Jugovica, arrested on 6. 9. 1999;
94. Radovanovic Nebojsa - from Kaorak, arrested on 30. 6. 1999;
95. Slavic Nebojsa - from Lipljan, arrested on 28. 6. 1999;
96. Nikolic Cedomir - from Gracanica, arrested on 13. 8. 1999;
97. Nikolic Stojan - from K.Polje, arrested on 30. 8. 1999;
98. Pavlovic Milan - from Lipljan, arrested on 27. 6. 1999;
99. Petrovic Vesko - from K.Polje, arrested on 7. 7. 1999;
100. Popovic Milorad - from Laplje Selo , arrested on 6. 8. 1999;
101. Punisic Milutin - from Pristina, arrested on 13. 7. 1999;
102. Dekic Sinisa - from K.Polje, arrested on 7. 7. 1999;
103. Skolic Milos - from Pristina, arrested on 25. 6. 1999;
104. Joksimovic Slobodan - arrested on 25. 6. 1999;
105. Spasic Slavisa - from Obilic, arrested on 9. 9. 1999;
106. Slosic Stanoje - from K.Polje, arrested on 18. 8. 1999;
107. Stanojevic Zoran - from Lipljan, arrested on 14. 8. 1999;
108. Stoilovic Miodrag - from K.Polje, arrested on 7. 7. 1999;
109. Stolic Ljubomir - from Novi Pazar, arrested on 13. 7. 1999;
110. Ostojic Veljko - arrested on 13. 7. 1999;
111. Zivic Borivoje - from Obilic, arrested on 9. 9. 1999;
112. Zivic Jovan - from Obilic, arrested on 9. 9. 1999;
113. Zivic Svetislav - from Laplje Selo, arrested on 10. 8. 1999;
114. Dimic Trajan - from the village of Mogilje, arrested in November 1999;
115. Marinkovic Srecko - from Izvor, arrested on 26. 8. 1999;
116. Simic Zivorad - from Boljevac, arrested on 24. 11. 1999;
117. Stojanovic Srba - from Boljevac, arrested on 24. 11. 1999;
118. Dimic Milan - arrested on 15. 9. 1999;
119. Djuric Ljiljana - arrested on 13. 8. 1999;
120. Djuric Radoje - arrested on 13. 8. 1999;
121. Djuric Slobodan - arrested on 14. 8. 1999;
122. Maljkovic Ranko - arrested on 13. 8. 1999;
123. Mutavcic Nebojsa - arrested on 8. 2. 1999;
124. Nesic Milorad - arrested on 22. 8. 1999;
125. Popovic Branislav - arrested on 26. 8. 1999;
126. Scepanovic Zeljko - arrested on 14. 8. 1999;
127. Trajkovic Zoran - arrested on 28. 9. 1999;
128. Virljevic Venkov - arrested on 8. 11. 1999;
129. Vuckovic Miroslav - arrested on 23. 8. 1999;
130. Vukanovic Goran - arrested on 10. 12. 1999;
131. Vukovic Tomislav - arrested on 10. 5. 1999;
132. Radivojevic Radosav - from Zubin Potok, arrested on 13. 8. 1999;
133. Pejic Dragisa - arrested on 23. 6. 1999;
134. Stepanovic Nebojsa - from Kosovo Polje, arrested on 7. 7. 1999;
135. Filipovic Ljubisa - from Vitina, arrested in November 1999;
136. Zivkovic Blagoje - from the village of Koritiste, arrested in October 1999;
137. Mihailovic Jugoslav, from Gnjilane, arrested on 24. 6. 1999;
138. Petkovic Blagoje - from Kamenica, arrested on 18. 6. 1999;
139. Simijonovic Sasa - from Gnjilane, arrested in August 1999;
140. Simijonovic Zivorad - from Cernice, arrested in August 1999.

In expectation of your prompt action in regard to the afore mentioned, please accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Branko Brankovic
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.